

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014

Communications Portfolio

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Question No: 243

Program No. Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Hospitality and Entertainment

Senator Ludwig asked:

1. What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date including any catering and drinks costs.
2. What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend from Supplementary Budget Estimates in November 2013 to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
3. What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
4. What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.
5. Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved?

Answer:

1. The ABC considers hospitality to be a subset of its entertainment expenditure in accordance with the ABC's Entertainment and Functions policy. Entertainment expenditure may include hosting guests at key media industry events (eg, the Walkley Awards and the Andrew Olle lecture), hosting the ABC's annual Parliament House Showcase, launching ABC Television's new season programming and attendance at press club luncheons.
2. For the period 1 November 2013 to 31 January 2014 the ABC spent \$128,000 on entertainment. It is not feasible to separately identify items of entertainment due to the high volume and small nature of the transactions.
3. N/A
4. The ABC is forecasting to spend in total \$421,000 on entertainment in 2013-14.
5. The Corporation reviews expenditure on entertainment as part of managing the overall budget. There is no current plan to reduce expenditure on these items.